

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application as amended herein is respectfully requested. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-4 are pending and remain in this application.

Drawings

In response to the Office Action, Applicant is submitting herewith new, corrected drawings.

Specification Objections

The Office Action has objected to the specification. Applicant has amended the application to place the serial numbers of the co-pending applications in the appropriate locations.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office Action has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and claim what Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. As amended, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 particularly points out and claims what Applicant regards as an invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable by Sample et al. (U.S. Patent 5,644,515) in view of Lin (U.S. Patent 6,421,251). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. As the Office Action states, Sample et al. does not teach “interchanging the inputs or outputs of at least one pair of conductors to denote a cable

length”, which is required by claim 1. Lin also does not teach the “interchanging”. Indeed, the Office Action does not point to anywhere in Lin where such “interchanging” is disclosed. All the Office Action states is that the Office Action teaches wire “interconnection” information. In other words, although Lin’s technique talks about “interconnection”, Lin does not disclose “interchanging”, which is required by claim 1, anywhere.

In addition, the Office Action states the following at page 4, lines 4-7:

At the time of invention was made, it would have been obvious of to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sample et al. in view of Lin since it¹ would be advantageous to emulate a specified signal and *make the necessary wiring changes* so as to *optimize the circuit via emulation*. (emphasis added)

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the above statement. To begin with, as above, neither Sample et al. nor Lin teach the “interchanging” required by claim 1, let alone performing the interchanging “prior to installing the cable”, which is also required by claim 1. In addition, neither Lin nor Sample et al. say nothing about “identifying cable lengths”. Given that this is one of the purposes of the claimed subject matter (page 6, lines 10 to 12 in Applicant’s specification), Applicant respectfully submits that a person having ordinary skill in the art would not look to either Sample or Lin for guidance.

Indeed, Applicant respectfully submits that such a person having ordinary skill could not have conceived of “interchanging” cables based upon teachings of “*optimizing the circuit via emulation*”, which is stated as above in the Office Action. In fact, Sample and Lin are both concerned with testing an integrated circuit design that will be programmed into them. Neither Sample nor Lin have anything to do with identifying cable lengths. In other words, even if

¹ Though the Office Action states “... since in would be ...”, Applicant surmises the phrase as “... since it would be ...”.

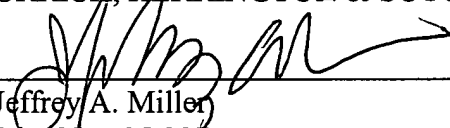
Sample et al. and Lin are combined, you still would not arrive at the invention of claim 1. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that at the time the claimed invention was made, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to make the invention of claim 1.

Claims 2-4 are allowable because they are dependent on claim 1, which is allowable.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the subject application is in condition for allowance. The Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the subject application be allowed.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments on the application, the undersigned can be reached at (650) 614-7660.

Dated: May 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,
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